

Darkest Days

from Rose Royal

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Introduction

Authors Note

I have worked on this book for a few months. I wrote it all in school, because it was my only access to computers. I would like to thank my friends and family that inspired me and influenced me to keep going. I never thought, being so young, I could write a book. Thanks to everyone around me, I could. Thank you for making me dreams come true.

Love,

Rose Royal

Chapter 1

Chapter 1- The Surprise

I was running down the street, past the field that was big enough to land a jet. The wind whipping through my blonde hair. Today was the day, the eclipse. The first one since one hundred years ago. I would only see one, and today was it. I ran into the observation chamber, the machine gears whirring as it lifted me up to the deck. Mother and Father were already there watching the sun.

"Wow that is beautiful!" my mother said.

"It truly is dear." father responded.

"How long is it going to last?" I asked impatiently.

"Only a few hours, then it's gone for another hundred years." father said.

I looked up at the sun.

"Reagan," my mother scolded me "you know to wear your protective glasses."

I sighed and slipped on my glasses, the metal forming to my face. The sun started to disappear. The moon eventually took its place, and the backyard went dark. My mother gasped, my father stood in awe.

"Only a few minutes?" I thought. I was wrong. Confusion swept over my face as the moon stayed, still, and standing the same.

"Mom?" I asked. "Why is it still there?"

"I?..uh? don't know dear." she whispered, trying to sound confident.

We all made our way off of the observation deck and into the house. Mother turned on the port.

"Breaking news the moon has stopped in its path of totality, causing the Earth to fall into a eternal darkness." the broadcaster announced.

My mother gasped, her face turning slowly white. The port rang and she hesitated before answering it.

"This is Mrs. Doyan may I help you?" she said.

A man in a white coat appeared on the port.

"Yes, Mrs. Doyan we need your husband John Doyan to come into the base."

Father worked for NASA, and this was on his shoulders. My mother took a deep breath.

"Honey NASA wants you at the base!" mother said.

"I'll be right there." he says. He grabs the keys and runs out the door. His truck rumbles out of the driveway and pulls out of view.

Chapter 2

Chapter 2- The Mission

Father came back a few hours later. His face white, as if he had seen a ghost. Mother looked surprised to see him.

"Darling," she said "What happened.?" He stood there silent, but soon he started to stutter. Then his voice boomed, as if he had new confidence.

"They say the moon is permanently positioned, the only way to free it is to launch a shuttle into space, and somehow create enough impact to set it back into motion. They are going to choose a man to do it and they will randomly draw.?" His voice slowly faded. "They said the chosen astronaut will receive a call soon.?" Mother's face was white, she slowly set herself down on the chair.

"Well," she said "All we can do is wait." The minutes slowly passed by. Each glance at the clock gave me more hope that father wouldn't be chosen. Then all hope flooded from me, as the port rang. My mother answered it and talked only for a second. She walked into my room and sat down on the bed.

"Don't worry?" she said, "NASA hasn't called. It's just Grandmama." her voice gave me hope, yet again.

A crash came from the kitchen and mother went running. I ran in behind her, to find father leaning over the port; his NASA badge and gear sprawled across the floor. Mother went to calm him and I knew what this meant. He had been chosen to go. He is the astronaut that is going to space to knock the moon back into orbit. This meant he was going to??.die. My anger bubbled inside me.

I yelled out. "How could they? I thought they cared about us! How could they let you die? And all for a stupid moon!?"

I stormed off. Running to my room and slamming the door. I had to stop this, to save Father. It was my mission.

Chapter 3

Chapter 3- Never Say Goodbye

Father came into my room, and sat down on the bed. He looked at me and smiled.

"Honey, listen the Superiors do care about us, and I am willing to die so that others can live." he whispered to me. He wiped a tear from my cheek.

"It's going to be ok, they say I have a few hours to say my goodbyes."

His eyes grew misty, and he blinked out a few tears.

"Goodbye, Reya, I love you with all my heart and I'm so proud of you."

He stood up and walked out the door. I stood in shock.

I'm going to lose my father. I can't let this happen, I have to save him. Mother came into my room.

You could tell she had been crying for a while. Her eyes were red and her nose was red.

"Come say goodbye to your father," she said and walked out the room.

I followed my mother down the hall and into the living room. Father stepped toward me and hugged me. He said nothing, I couldn't say anything either; I was choked up on tears.

"Honey can you give me and your father a few minutes?" my mother said. I went outside and sat on the porch, and looked up at father's truck. I would never see it again, the Superiors would take it and give it to someone who needs it. The truck, it gave me an idea. I ran around the house to the back door, and slipped inside. I grabbed plenty of food, a flashlight, Grandad's pocket knife, and shoved it into my bookbag. I looked around my room and sighed.

"I'm gonna miss this place." I thought. I again slipped through the back door, and ran into the front yard. I made sure no one was coming; then I jumped into the back of Father's pickup truck. I heard him come out the front door. He jumped into his pickup truck and started up the engine. The truck started to move; and I knew that I was on my way to NASA.

Chapter 4

Chapter 4- One Last Time

We passed the security clearance without a problem. Father pulled into the parking lot, and the truck shuddered to a stop. Father jumped out the car, and I followed close behind. He used his badge to get inside. As the door swung closed I slipped, quietly and carefully, inside. I followed him down long hallways, and through doors. When it seemed like I had been following him for hours, we came into the launching deck. The giant rocket stood in front of me. The smooth letters ran down the side spelling out 'Destiny'. They opened the door to the rocketship.

They must be doing final preparations. While Wandering around, I found the space suits, and I carefully slipped one on. I gasped as it started to shrink, molding to my body's every curve. I looked up and a ladder stood before me.

This must be the way up to the main cockpit. I started to climb. The cockpit was small and cramped. Panels of buttons, switches and levers lined against the wall. I sat down in the seat, and before I knew it, I was locked in. The seatbelt, feeling my weight, clamped on. The computer system blinked on, closed the cockpit hatch, and the main rocketship doors. A radio beeped and a man's voice rang out. 'John? Is that you???' he asked. 'It's not time to board yet. Press the button to stop the launch.' I knew I could never pass for my father, so I kept quiet. The rocket ship shook and I knew we were blasting off. The radio beeped on again.

'John, repeat John, can you hear me???'

I tried to make my voice as deep as I could. Before I could say a word, I heard a loud bang, and everything went black.

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I woke to the sounds of alarms, and red flashing lights. I looked out of the cockpit window, and the Earth stood below me. I looked ahead and gasped. The moon only hundreds of miles away.

'So this is what dad meant,' I said, 'the Superiors wanted dad to crash into the moon to send it back in motion. Not a good plan, if I say so myself.?' The moon came closer with every second. I tried to flip some switches but it only made the alarms louder. I looked back at Earth longing to be home. At least I got to see it one last time.

Chapter 5

Chapter 5- The Discovery

The rocketship closed in on the moon. I closed my eyes and braced for impact, and death. I opened my eyes to see how long I had left to live. What I saw blew my mind. I saw buildings, skyscrapers, homes all on the moon's surface. My mind started to flood with questions.

How did they get there? Why are they there? How has the Superiors not noticed them before? Then I panicked. The Destiny was traveling at incredible speeds, and the city was only miles away.

I'm going to crash. Then the ship started to slow down, and a voice came over the speaker.

?Remain calm we are going to dock your vessel to the port. You don't need to steer the ship, we have taken control of the vessel.?? The ship slowly glided into the port. The port hatch opened and I climbed down. A woman stood before me. She had black hair and grey piercing eyes. Her yellow dress flowed, even though there was no wind. The air around her was electrifying.

?I am Electro Royanity. The queen of Monopolis. Why have they sent you; and why are you so small?? her questions bombarded me. Her grey eyes turned yellow and her hands started to spark. Her hair flew around her, as if it had been electrified.

?Answer me small human! Or I will blow you too bits.?? Electro screamed. A hand touched Electro; and she returned to normal. A small girl came from behind her.

?Fawn what are you doing here? I told you to stay in the palace.?? Electro said as she picked up the small girl. The little girl giggled and played with Electro's hair.

?Mommy got mad?? Fawn said. Electro sighed and put Fawn down.

?No dear,?? Electro whispered, ?Mommy is alright. Now go tell Daddy we have a visitor.?? Fawn giggled and waddled away. Electro waved at me to follow her. As we left the ship, I stepped onto the floor and screamed.

?Calm down small human it's just glass.?? Electro said in a bored tone. ?This way, and hurry, I have some questions for you.??

Chapter 6

Chapter 6- A Warm Welcome

We walked to a platform that took us to the palace. Electro lead me to a room. Shelves reached the ceiling; but they were empty.

?What's in the shelves?? I said sarcastically. Electro turned to me and smiled.

?Each book contains a piece of our history.?? she said.

?There are books on these shelves? All I see is emptiness.? I said as I looked at the empty shelves trying to imagine books.

?You will see then eventually, when you develop your powers. It's simple knowledge.? she said.

?Powers?? I yelled.

Electro sighed, ?We will discuss this later. For now shut your blabbering mouth, small human.??

She gestured for me to sit down on a stool. Once we both sat down the stools began to rise. I yelped but stayed quiet trying to be brave. The stools glided up to a table; where a man wearing white sat.

This blue eyes were calming, and his soft brown hair complemented his strong figure.

?Hello darling.? he said and kissed Electro?s cheek. Electro blushed and said

?Honey, we have a visitor. This is small human; small human this is Aires.?? I was furious.

?I have a name you know.? I yelled at her.

?Do not raise your voice to the queen of Moonopolis! she shouted.

?Electro,? said Aires, ?she is correct, the small human has a name. What is it dear?? I was to afraid to answer, but I whispered quietly.

?Reagan, Reagan Doyan.? He reached his hand out to shake mine.

?Well, Ms.Reagan Doyan, welcome to Moonopolis.?

Chapter 7

Chapter 7 -Another Thing to Learn

Aires floated ten feet of the garden floor. My head started to hurt from looking at him. His eyes were closed and he was concentrating.

"How is he doing that?" I said in awe.

"His powers allow him to levitate. Aires is an Air Element, he can control air or wind." Electro explained. Aires floated down to the floor. He looked at me with excitement in his eyes.

"Now we must sort you!" Aires said, his voice soft. Electro sighed and agreed. I followed Aires and Electro back into the palace. Once outside the palace we stepped into a large glass box.

"This is what we call the Active Transport." Aires said "You press a button and it takes you anywhere in Moonopolis." He reached in front of me and pushed a button that said "Elements Garden". The Active Transport began to shake. My mind was boggled by the amount of advanced technology they had. Electro pulled an item out of her pocket.

"What's that?" I said.

"It's similar to your ports, you can call other Moonopolies from them. They're called protons." she explained.

"We're almost there!" exclaimed Aires. Then I saw it in the distance. A large metal building, surrounded in beautiful gardens. I gasped at it's sleek beauty. The Active Transport landed on the ground, and a small man met us there.

"Hello, my name Echo. I Earth Element. You name?" he said. His English was very bad. Electro spoke to Echo in a language I've never heard.

"Was that Chinese?" I asked Electro after she had finished talking to him.

"No," she said in amazement, "do you humans not know Moons?"

"No I've never heard that before." I said, questioning what they taught us back in school.

Electro sighed. "Another thing we have to teach you."

Chapter 8

Chapter 8- The Sorting

Echo took us into the building.

"Welcome Sorting House," Echo said. "This way to sort."

We walked down long corridors, filled with beautiful art, pottery, and marble statues of past leaders. Echo opened two giant doors, into a large room. A large chair sat in the middle, a bowl sat a few feet in front of it.

"Come over," Echo said, as he sat down in the large chair. I walked over and stood in front of the big bowl. Aires and Electro stayed behind. Echo lit a match and set it in the bowl. He called a girl over. The girl whispered into Echo's ear.

"This is Flamet. She teach you fire," he said.

She began to move her hands, softly making the fire grow.

"You try," he said. I tried to use her exact movement but nothing happened.

Flamet looked slightly disappointed, but she left the room, and Echo called another name.

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After half an hour of struggling to control different elements, I was tired.

Echo looked at me and said "Almost done, one more." He called up a girl with white hair and blue tips. She smiled at me and sat beside Echo.

"This Weria. She will show water," he explained. Weria stood in front of me, her hands moved gracefully and gently. The water moved into the air, creating a show of beauty and strength. All too soon, the water floated back into the bowl. I was ready to try, I moved my hands upward slowly. I didn't look at Echo, Weria, Aires, or even Electro. I focused on the water, then it moved. The water spiraled upward creating the same display of beauty and grace Weria showed. Echo gasped, and Weria seemed angry. I floated the water back down, thinking I showed enough of my powers. Echo looked at me and said. "You are Aquatic, new name Aquana." Aires burst into applause, and Electro slowly clapped. I ran to Aires and hugged him.

"Why is Weria mad?" I asked. He glanced at Weria.

"She tried for years to do that move, but you did it in minutes," his said.

Chapter 9

Chapter 9- A Family Secret

Echo called me over by my new name, but at first I didn't respond.

He called again. "Aquana, come over." I left Aires and I stood in front of Echo. Echo looked deep into my eyes and said.

"You been here before." It wasn't a question.

"No, I've never been here before. I never even knew it existed." I told him puzzled.

"You lie. I see your eyes before. You have same eyes as," he stopped, "What your full name Aquana?" he asked me. His eyes were glaring me down.

"Reya Mya Doyan." I said with confidence. Echo's eyes widened

"You are Doyan?" Echo said. "Your father was great Waterbender. I train him for six years. Then he went to Earth, never came back." I was shocked. How could my father know about this; and say nothing?

"Do you know anymore? I need to know more!" I yelled, tears streaming down my face. Everything flooded into me at once. I might not see mother or father ever again, the house, or the observatory. I collapsed on the floor in tears. Aires ran over to me and pulled me close in his arms.

"It's ok Reya, you're alright." he whispered into my ear. It was nice to hear my real name, instead of Aquana. Electro followed soon after and grabbed my hand.

"Get up girl," she said demandingly, "you're stronger than this."

I stood up, her words giving me strength. I fell into Electro's arms.

"Thank you." I told her between sobs. Electro smiled, "No problem kid." Electro felt like a mother to me. She pulled away, but held onto my shoulders. She looked into my eyes caringly.

"Let's go back to the palace and look in the library. Maybe we'll find something about your father there." she turned to face Echo and spoke to him in Moons.

"What does that mean?" I asked after she finished talking.

"Uta Monu. It means thank you." she responded.

I whispered it quietly.

"Uta Monu."

Chapter 10

Chapter 10- The Beginning

Once we reached the palace, we were greeted by Fawn. She hobbled over on her little legs, her nurse right behind her making sure she didn't fall.

"Mommy! Daddy!" Fawn yelled. Aires picked her up and twirled her around.

"Hello sunshine," he said, then kissed her on the cheek. He put Fawn down and we all walked to the library. Now I understood what Electro meant. I could see all the books, that I thought, weren't there before. Electro stood on the edge of a row. I heard her type in my last name.

"There is one book on your father," she said and pressed a button. I heard a whirr then a ding. Electro pulled up a flap, and the book was there. The title was written in English so I could read it clearly.

"The Life of John Doyan the First Human on Moonopolis?" the title read. I picked it up and flipped to the first page. It was written in Moons. I groaned.

"What's wrong?" Aires asked.

"It's written in Moons," I said upset.

"It's ok Reya. We'll teach you."

For the next few weeks I stayed in the palace. I learned Moons and babysat Fawn, while Electro was on arends. I went to the Sorting temple to train with Echo. It finally felt like home. One day Electro took me to MM or Middle Moonopolis. She showed me around and told me I could come here whenever I wanted. I visited regularly, sometimes staying for hours. The shops and stores lined Main Street. Electro gave me money for the week. I bought various items, from clothing to items for my new room. I was in MM one day and felt like someone was following me. I walked by the fountain and whirled around. I moved the water to create a forcefield around me. That's when I saw him.

Chapter 11

Chapter 11- The Handsome Stranger

He stood there in dark clothes, his hands in his pockets as if hiding something.

"Who are you and what do you want?" I asked. He flipped back his hoodie, and I saw his face. He had deep brown eyes and midnight black hair with tips of red. He was handsome, and I couldn't help but stare.

"Flarin. I'm a Firebender. You really have to be more careful around us Firebenders, we like to take what we want." he pulled out a crystal that I had just bought from The Market.

"You stole from me? Give it back!" I yelled and lunged at him. I slipped and fell hard on my face.

"Well it's looks like you fell for me." he said smoothly and winked. I groaned and got up. He tossed the crystal to me and began to walk off. I followed him, but he didn't seem to notice. We walked down Main Street and I was distracted by the many shops and smells. I lost Ardin for a second, he blended in with the crowd so well, but I quickly found him again.

"So you're a Waterbender?" Flarin asks, when I catch up to him.

"Yes. How do you know?" I say confused.

"When you noticed I was following you, you stopped and created a watersphere. I've only seen one person do that. Her name is Weria." he explained.

"Yeah," I groaned "I've had my experiences with her."

Flarin laughed, it was deep yet light.

"So you're the famous Aquana." his laughed turned into a chuckle.

"Ugh, I'm Reya not Aquana. I'd prefer to be called that." I said upset.

"Well Reya not Aquana, it's nice to meet you." he shook my hand, I secretly didn't want to let go.

Chapter 12

Chapter 12- Conflict

Flarin gave me his port number, and I made my way to the palace. Once I got to the palace, Fawn was there to meet me. Electro ran into the room, she picked up Fawn and told me to follow her. We went into the throne room. Aires ran into the room soon after, he nodded at Electro and pressed a button. The throne room chair split apart revealing a tunnel to a bomb shelter.

"Where are we going?" I asked Aires and Electro.

"People of Earth are attacking, and we must hide." Electro said grabbing my arm and pulling me into the tunnel. I pulled against her.

"What about the Moonopolies?" I asked. "Will they be safe?" I thought about Flarin. Will he be ok? My thoughts revealed my feelings for him.

"Yes we warned all of Moonopolis." Electro said, which relieved my worries.

"Now let's go." she said and pulled me into the tunnel. We walked for a while, and then we were inside the shelter. Fawn started crying, as bombs went off miles above our heads. I felt sick, thinking of all the people that are dying. Hours went by, but the sounds of bullets and explosions never ceased. The morning turned to night, and Electro fell asleep with Fawn. I sat on the top bunk, messing with my port. Aires floated up to sit by me.

"What are you looking at?" he asked quietly.

"Promise you won't be mad?" I pleaded timidly. Aires nodded and I continued. "I'm trying to hack into the security cameras outside of the palace. I want to see the destruction, and all the people that have-" I stooped to afraid to say it.

"I know," Aires said. He hesitated, and didn't want to continue. I understood. There were chances that the people I've met, the people I love, might be dead.

Chapter 13

Chapter 13-Destruction

The sounds of bullets and bombs ceased. Electro and Aires went outside.

"They've left." Aires told me and Fawn. I winched at the light. The destruction was terrible.

Buildings in ashes, dead scattered on the ground, black ash filled the air. I couldn't breath, I couldn't look at the dead bodies scattered the ground; but I did. I looked down at a body it was a boy, around my age. He had brown skin and brown curly hair. His eyes were open, but dead. I looked at Electro and she turned towards me. Tears streamed down her eyes. She fell to the ground, and rushed to her. Aires noticed his wife and ran over.

"It's all my fault. Their lives were in my hands, and I killed them." she said and began to sob. Aires held Electro in his arms, and I realized how much I wanted that. Fawn ran to me and I picked her up.

"Mommy ok?" she asked.

"Yes, she is just sad." I explained.

"I make her better." Fawn said, and I laughed at the idea. I put her down, and she waddled over to Electro. Fawn put her hands on the ground and closed her eyes. A small flower popped up from the ground, and Fawn put it in her mother's hair. Electro looked at Fawn and smiled. She pulled out her proton, and called all of the people in Moonopolis. She stood tall, trying to hide her weaknesses.

"Attention people of Moonopolis!" her voice rang out, loud and proud. "The Superiors ships have left." I gasped as she said their name. The Superiors would never do that. They don't even know about this place or do they. "They damaged our city and our homes, for no reason! I will not tolerate this kind of behavior, this means war!" A chill ran through me as she said war. This was too much. I ran to Electro as the broadcast shut down.

"You can't do that!" I screamed. "It's wrong!" Electro whipped around to me.

"Wrong???" she yelled. "You know what's wrong! Killing innocent people, and destroying cities; because one of your kind is gone!" she stopped, realizing she said too much.

"They know. They know I'm alive. How could you keep this from me? That's why they attacked, isn't it?"

Chapter 14

Chapter 14- Revealing

"You lied to me! How could you?" I said, angrily. "They know I'm alive and well, but you lied." Electro looked hurt with every word I said. She looked down at her feet, and tried to say something, but nothing happened. That's when I couldn't hold it in any longer. I ran. I jumped over rubble and bodies, not caring what came down or who was dead. I ran as fast and as far as I could. I ran past the Element Gardens, past M.M, and past the outskirts of Moonopolis. I ran until I couldn't breathe. I looked out at the vast moon landscape; beautiful mountains and craters rolling as far as the eye can see.

I felt a hand on my shoulder.

"Hello Aires." I said. "Why did you follow me?" A pause, then a soft voice.

"It's not Aires." I spun around to find Flarin standing there. I threw my arms around him.

"Your ok! I thought you were hurt!" I said worriedly.

"Did you miss me?" he asked. I smiled and pulled him along. We sat on top of a mountain, that overlooked Moonopolis.

I sighed, and looked at the destruction I had caused, the people I killed. A tear ran down my cheek. Flarin wiped it from my face, and I looked away from him.

"What are you doing?" he asked, as I covered up my face.

"I don't want you to see this side of me." I said. He lifted up my chin to meet his.

"I want to see all of your sides." he said. The distance between us grew smaller, and I forgot about everything. His tan skin was warm as it melted into mine. I forgot about Moonopolis, Electro, and all of the dead people. All I knew was me and him. After what felt like hours, I pulled away and we walked hand in hand back into Moonopolis.

Chapter 15

Chapter 15- Finally Home

Me and Flarin walked to the palace. He kissed my cheek and took the Active Transport back to MM. I walked into the library to sit and read more about father, but it was all but quiet. Electro and Aires sat on the end of a floating table while men and woman sat along the edge of the table, arguing.

‘Silence!’ Aires yelled, as I walked into the room. I jumped, because I had never heard him so fierce.

‘Aquana,’ he said. It was custom to call me by my name in front of others. ‘What do you need dear?’ he asked.

‘Oh, I was just wanting to read more about father.’ I said shyly. I sat down on a floating chair and grabbed his book. Whisped flew across the table. Somewhere ‘She’s a Doyan?’ others ‘I thought he was dead!’. I floated back down and left the room. I ran to my room and plopped on the bed. I opened the book and began to read.

John Doyan was the first human to ever land in Moonopolis. The Moonopolies have been in contact with the Superiors for years, but this was the first face to face meeting. He was a great waterbender trained by Echo. John stayed for several years and eventually fell in love with a citizen of Moonopolis, her name was Michelle Hitten. Before John and Michelle returned to Earth, Doctor Robert Griffith delivered Michelle’s daughter. She named her Reya. No one knows if the daughter survived the trip back to Earth. John was never heard from since then. The prophets foretold him returning in thirteen years. No one knew if this was true or not. Signed- Echo Eleno

The Superiors new about this place, and still attacked? How could father let them? He loved this place, it’s where he fell in love with mother. It’s where I was born; it’s my home.

Chapter 16

Chapter 16- STARDUST

For the next few months the Superiors attacked. People died, but not as many as the first attack. After a few months, Aires decided to attack back. Electro and the council agreed. They fired up their warships and prepared to battle. After weeks of preparation Aires came to my room.

"What are you doing in here?" I asked. "Shouldn't you be preparing for war?" Aires had been so busy the past few weeks, he didn't have time for me and Fawn. Aires was like my father, and he loved me.

"I want to show you something." he said with excitement. I followed him to the loading deck. He pulled a tarp and revealed a sleek new jet.

"Happy Birthday Reya!" he yelled. I stood there in amazement. He got me a jet!

"Thank you so much! Does this mean I can fight?" I said. He hesitated then reassured me.

"Well the legal age to fight is fifteen, and you're fourteen, but that doesn't matter I'm the king! Now let's teach you how to drive." I climbed into the ship. The ship was just my size, and the joystick was perfectly reachable.

"Every ship needs a name." he said. "So what is it?" I waited, thinking hard. Then it hit me.

"STARDUST." I said confidently. I hopped into the jet.

For hours Aires taught me the basics. I fired up the engine and drove to the dark side of the moon. Once I landed, I took a breathe of the cool crisp air. I finally felt free from everything.

Chapter 17

Chapter 17- The Final Hello

It was my first time. The Superiors attacked, and I was ready to fight. The alarms went off, enemies attacking. I ran to the STARDUST and jumped inside, the alarms still sounding. Engines all around me fired up and flew into the air. We broke through Moon's atmosphere, and were on our way to Earth.

?MotherShip to STARDUST.? Aires voice came over the speaker.

?STARDUST is present.? I responded.

?Ember to STARDUST.?? Flarin said.

?STARDUST is present. Now let's go kick some bootay.?? I said. Each jet had been assigned a certain area to attack. I had been assigned Quadrant 356. The jet's computer system showed me my quadrant and I flew towards it, I gasped as I saw what my quadrant was. It was North America. It's not over home everything will be alright. I pressed my jet further, full speed.

?MotherShip to all Quadrants. Hold position and do not fire.? Aires firm voice boomed over all speakers.

?Steady. Now fly into Quadrant.? Aires commanded. I flew close wanting to show them my beautiful sleek, power.

?Hold, now fire.? Aires shouted. I was ready to pull the trigger. Ready to destroy the evil people that killed thousands. I hesitated as I saw something familiar. Something almost real. My weapons were set. I paused as I realized. I looked into the warm brown eyes of my father.

Endless Nights

from Rose Royal

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Introduction

Authors Note

I really enjoyed writing this book, mainly because of the love triangle. I know, I know you probably hate me for the cliffhanger; but it keeps people reading. I promise I will finish the third, and final, book as soon as I can. I might send short stories to keep you busy. I am thinking of an extra book, but it doesn't relate entirely to the story. This might not happen, but maybe. I hope you enjoyed this book. I am thankful for so many supportive friends.

Chapter 1

Prolouge

?MotherShip to all Quadrants. Hold position and do not fire.? Aires firm voice boomed over all speakers. ?Steady. Now fly into Quadrant.? Aires commanded. I flew close wanting to show them my beautiful sleek, power.

?Hold, now fire.? Aires shouted. I was ready to pull the trigger. Ready to destroy the evil people that killed thousands. I hesitated as I saw something familiar. Something almost real. My weapons were set. I paused as I realized. I looked into the warm brown eyes of my father.

Chapter 1- Joy

I was coming at him with incredible speed. My jet ready to destroy, weapons ready to fire. I came to realization and pulled my jet up; barely missing the roof of the house. I landed in the field beside our house, and jumped out of the jet. I stumbled like a drunk, still trying to get used to gravity. I ran into my parents arms, tears streaming down my face.

?Reya, we missed you so much. We thought you were dead.? my mother said, through her sobs.

?I know, I missed you too.?? I cried. Father asked me thousands of questions, so many I lost track of time. A buzz came from the radio.

?MotherShip to STARDUST. You ok down there Aquana?? Aires used my Element name to grab my attention. My father looked at me, his eyes wide.

?You're a Waterbender?? he asked.

?Yes, my name is Aquana Royanity of Moonopolis.? I said, proud to say my full name.

?I'm so proud of you.?? he said. ?Your royalty! You met Aires, how?s my old friend? Oh how is Electro, we were never good friends, but I still care about her???. My father ran to the jet, giddy with excitement.

?Aires is that you?? my father asked, even though he knew who it was.

?John? You're alive! How is Michelle?? Aires voice was filled with excitement. They talked and talked. Reuniting like old friends would. I fired up the jet, and told mother and father to hop in. As we drove to meet Aires, a warmth filled my soul, something I haven?t felt in a while. Joy.

Chapter 2

Chapter 2- You, Me, and the Stars

The jet flew onto the loading deck of the MotherShip. My father shook Aires hand, and greeted Electro. I stood back, watching my parents reunite with their friends. A hand grasped my shoulder, knowing who it was, I spun around and kissed Flarin on the cheek. He looked surprised, but oddly satisfied.

"You're ok!" I said, and wrapped my arms around him.

"You know me Reya, I'm a survivor." he said through a smirk. His eyes lit up as if remembering something. "Come with me, I have to show you something." he pulled me along. Looking back at my parents, I realized they wouldn't mind my absence. I followed him around the MotherShip and into a dark room.

"Flarin you know that I can't see in the dark." I said. Fire elements have small sparks in their eyes creating just enough light to see.

"Just keep holding my hand, it's a surprise." He said, leading me further into the darkness.

I heard a lever switch and the room was flooded with light. A giant window opened, showing a beautiful view of the stars. I gasped

"It's beautiful!" I said. I looked out at the beautiful view.

"I wanted to give this to you." Flarin said, as I turned around. "It's called a power source. It holds the source of your power. If you ever need to use your powers, and there is no water around, this will allow you too." he slipped it around my neck, and kissed my hand. We sat down on a bean bag and stared at the stars. Flarin leaned close to me and whispered into my ear.

"I love you." My heart swelled with joy as I responded back.

"I love you too." My mind wandered as I stared up at the stars. Flarin pointed out the various constellations on the horizon. Flarin looked at me, and his eyes turned red.

"Flarin? Are you ok?" I asked. He grabbed my throat and began to choke me. Remembering the power source, I created a water sphere. He banged on the sphere his eyes savage red. Flarin began to levitate, struggling from Aires grasp. Flarin's eyes returned to normal, and Aires set him down. I broke my water sphere, and walked over cautiously. Father and mother rushed into the room.

"Are you alright Reya?" they asked, and inspected me for any cuts.

"Yea." I said, deciding to not tell them about Flarin choking me.

"Everyone leave! Now!" Aires yelled. I have only heard him this angry once before. We left the room, I looked back. A tear ran down Flarin's cheek. I didn't know Fire could cry.

Chapter 3

Chapter 3- All Alone

Aires was in the room for hours, but eventually his voice came over the intercom.

“Aquana fly back to Moonopolis. Flarin needs to go to Echo. Now.” he commanded me. I fired up the ship's jets and headed home. Moonopolis suddenly came into view, and I gasped loudly. MM was in flames. Thousands of water and fire benders tried to calm the flames. I wanted to stop and help them, with my power source they could stop the fire. I knew were my duties ly, and it was to obey my king. I flew past MM and onward to Element Gardens. As I landed, Echo rushed over to the jet. Echo had two women beside him. One was a fire, the color of her hair dark red, and the other a air, her pale skin was as white as the moon's surface. The air element name was Airiana, the flame was Charcol. Airiana lifted him into the Element Gardens, and I went to follow beside them. Aires put his hand on my shoulder.

“Don’t. He needs to be alone right now.” Aires comforted me.

Thinking of MM, I took the Active Transport there. I tried to focus on the task at hand, but my mind keep wandering to Flarin. I accidentally soaked a fire element with my blast of water, not paying attention.

For most of the afternoon my time was taken up by calming the fires. My proton rang, it was Aires. “Aires!” I said as I accepted his call. “Is Flarin ok?” Aires laughed, amused at something, nothing which I could find.

“He is fine. Where are you? Is that smoke?” he asked worriedly.

“Don’t worry, I’m in MM helping with the fires.” I laughed at Aires for being scared of nothing.

“I’ll be home soon.” I said and hung up.

Chapter 4

Chapter 4- My Promise to You

The next few weeks went great. Training with Echo was excellent, I unlocked new powers each day. One day, in the midst of my training, I saw light blue flash in front of me. I shrieked as I looked at my hair. Half of my hair was light blue!

"What is wrong Aquana?" Echo asked.

"My hair," I squeaked, "It's blue!"

Echo nodded "Yes, the more power you use, your hair turns the color of the element you practice." My mind boggled.

"You can learn more than one element?" I asked Echo, curious about the process. Echo looked hesitant, but then calm.

"You, Aquana, have been the most skillful student I have ever had; well, except your father, of course. If you are able to bend the elements, you could do what your father never could. You would be the most powerful person the world has ever seen. You could bend people, cities, and entire populations to your will. Or you could help everyone grow, physically and mentally. But you must clear your mind of all evil." his voice went from a quiet whisper to a loud boom that filled the Garden. I had decided, I wanted to control all elements. Not for the ultimate power that could bend entire populations. No, I wanted to help people, to save them and make this world a better place.

"Echo I want to control all elements. Not to hurt people, but to save them."

Echo smiled stretched across his face.

"Aquana, you know be formally addressed as Aquana Elementas Royanity of Moonopolis." I felt proud of myself for attempting something only tried once before. I took the Active Transport to the palace, and told mother and father about my attempt. They rejoiced with excitement, but then father told me he needed to talk to me. We walked into the palace garden and he began

"Listen Reya, when I tried to do this something" happened. When I began to control another element for a period of time, something came over me. It told me to kill, to destroy anything that stood in my way of absolute power." he reached out to a dead blossom, and made it beautiful again.

"I only learned the basics of one, plant. I don't want you to go through what I did. You promise you will be careful." he asked me.

I hugged him and said

"I promise."

Chapter 5

Chapter 5- Exantice

I sat on the balcony of my bedroom, and looked at Moonopolis. Beautiful skyscrapers, and gleaming buildings took my breath away. I closed my eyes and began to concentrate. Today was the day I was going to master Air element. I imagined myself floating in the air. I felt my body leave the ground and I knew I was levitating. I tried to stay calm, and go as high as I could. It felt hard to go any further and decided to float down to the ground. A whistle came from behind me, and I smirked.

"Are you impressed yet?" I asked Flarin.

"I was impressed the first day I saw you in MM," he said. I blushed and stared back at Moonopolis. He wrapped his arm around me.

"You know you could rule all of this. With your new powers you could bend the people to your will," he said. I pulled away.

"What no. I would never do that," I said confused. Flarin's eyes turned red and a tall man stood where Flarin once was. His silver white hair contrasted from Flarin's midnight black. His eyes glazed over dark grey. He stood tall, but you could tell he was my age. Around 14, yet he looked much older, thousands of years older to be precise.

"Who are you?" I asked.

"I am the dark evil your father was talking about," he said smirking. He laughed and it echoed in my bones.

"What do you want?" I asked, truly afraid.

"Oh my dear," Exantice said only feet away from me, "I want you to control the world." I laughed.

"I will never do what you say," I said amused at his idiocy.

"Oh you don't have a choice," Exantice said and his hand lurched up. I fell to the ground in horrible pain. My eyes started to go black, then I saw him standing over me.

"See you in your dreams. My dear," he said.

"Who are you?" I said with my last bit of energy. He spun around and smiled like the devil.

"Exantice." The everything went black.

Chapter 6

Chapter 6- All the Lies

I awoke on the floor. Aires, Electro, and Flarin standing above me.

"Hey you ok, kid?" Electro asked. I sat up, with a pain in my head.

"I'm ok." I assured them.

"What happened?" Flarin asked, and I began to explain.

"Well I was practicing levitation and-?" a voice cut me off, soon I realized it was my own. I told them that I had attempted to go higher than I should, and fell. I didn't understand what was happening until I saw him. He stood in the shadow of the balcony making me say every word. I glared into his eyes

"Let me go." I said with no words. His eyes widened.

"I have complete control over you. I will only leave when you clear your soul of all want. No one can ever accomplish that. You humans are too selfish." he laugh filled my head.

"Reya you there?" Aires asked.

"No I'm not ok." I said.

"Why?" Aires asked.

"I-just," I stuttered remembering Exantice, "I'm just not ok." I stood up and walked into my room. I closed the balcony door and locked it. Aires shrugged and flew off the side, with Flarin holding on. I sat down my back pressed against the french doors. I felt horrible and I wanted to tell them, but I couldn't. Exantice wouldn't let me. I was furious and wanted to give him a piece of my mind. I called out his name loud and clear.

"EXANTICE!" I yelled, not loud enough for anyone to hear. He appeared beside me.

"You called my dear?" he asked in a sweet voice.

Chapter 7

Chapter 7- The Down Fall

Exantice had been controlling me for days. He was always in my mind, always taunting me. Days grew into weeks, and weeks grew into months. Exantice and I, grew closer we became friends, and he helped me in so many ways.

One day I decided to ask him what I never had before.

"How are you doing this? How can you control me?" He pressed his head against the door. He looked handsome, but I knew he was out to hurt me.

"I am driven by your want. The more you want something, the more powerful I become." he looked at me and smiled. "You want something, right now, and if you make bad decisions the want will grow. I foresee the future, I know." he was right. I wanted something, someone. I looked into Exantice's eyes and I saw what I wanted. No, I couldn't let myself want him, but somehow I did. When I first saw him I saw evil, yet I still wanted him. I loved Flarin, or did I?

I jumped up and screamed, "Get out of my head!" Exantice looked surprised.

"Did I do something?" he asked acting innocent.

"Don't you play that game with me. I know it was you inside my head. You are causing me to want you." I couldn't let him get in my head. He smirked,

"I can't cause you to want something, my dear, I can only grow on it."

I wanted him to leave, I needed to think to myself.

"Go away Exantice, I mean out of my head as well. I need time to myself." I said angrily.

"As you wish, my dear." he disappeared in a black puff. I knew he wasn't in my head. He was still close by, none the less. I threw my arms up, in an angry tantrum. What is wrong with me? How did this happen? And I knew the exact answer. I wanted to help people and that's when Exantrice found me. I was a kind girl, who could be swayed by love. I am a lose cannon.

I sat there for hours wanting to be with him, but also wanting to leave him forever. Then I heard a knock on the balcony door. Exantice stood there, his face pitiful.

"Can I come in now?" he said.

"In where? My head or my room?" I responded.

"Inside." he said.

I unlocked and opened the doors.

"I missed you." Exantice said teasingly. I laughed and let him inside. "Well?," he asked, "Did you miss me?" I was dying to say yes, but I said no. The upset look on his face killed me.

"Yes." I said finally. "I did miss you, a lot." He leaned in close, and his lips pressed on mine. I knew it was the start of my downfall.

Chapter 8

Chapter 8- When Two Clash

I grew farther away from my family and friends. I spent my time in my room with Exantice. We talked, I showed him my powers, and it was amazing. Each day I grew more excited to see him, to be in his arms. I ran to my room and shouted "Exant-!" I stopped short. Flarin stood leaning against the wall.

"Flarin. What are you doing in here?" I asked.

"Oh, I can't visit my girlfriend anymore?" he asked, playfully. He sat down on a chair and looked around my room.

"How can you stay in here for so long? Don't you get bored being all alone?" he wondered. I wanted to tell him that I wasn't alone. Exantice kept me company, and I enjoyed being with him. Flarin looked up at me and I knew he was serious.

"Who is Exantice?" he asked, and I knew it was all over.

"No one. Just an imaginary friend." I tried to laugh it off. Flarin did what I never thought he would. He stood up and called his name.

"Exantice." he said, and looked me straight in the eyes. Black smoke appeared behind Flarin, and I knew Exantice had heard his summon.

"My dear." Exantice said and drew closer. Flarin spun around and shot his hand toward Exantice. I yelped as Flarin's hand grabbed Exantice's throat.

"Stay away from her." Flarin said, his eyes now red. Exantice looked at Flarin and laughed.

"Are you trying to kill me?" he asked, "Stupid human, I am immortal." he floated right out of Flarin's grasp, as if a ghost. Flarin gasped and fainted on the floor.

Chapter 9

Chapter 9- I Choose You

Exantice looked up at me,

"Crap," he said. "Ummmm," he stood there, "I don't know what to do." I smacked my forehead. I took out my proton and dialed a number.

"Hello this is 313 what is your emergency?" and voice came from the proton. I paused, I am not prepared for this type of social interaction. I freaked out and paused. I started talking.

"Yeah we have a passed out flame element, and I don't know if there is a special procedure?" I looked up at Exantice, and he smiled.

"All you have to do is keep him warm until he wakes up," she said.

"Ok, thank you ma'am." I said, well Exantice said. The proton call ended. Exantice snapped his fingers and the fire began to roar. Exantice picked up Flarin and sat him down by the fire. I sat down beside Flarin, and rested my hand on his.

"I'm sorry," I told him and a tear ran down my cheek, us water elements are very emotional. Exantice came up behind me and put his hand on my shoulder.

"You don't have to be sorry, it was my fault," he kissed my forehead, and sat down beside me.

"You're right," I said infuriated, "It is your fault. If you wouldn't have chosen me none of his would have happened. I wouldn't be struggling to control myself, and I wouldn't be second guessing who I love!" I yelled at him. Exantice looked down.

"I chose you for a reason," he said quietly.

"Why to control me? To try and make me take over Moonopolis? To hurt people? Exantice, I love you, but those are stupid reasons," I explained.

"I chose you because you are strong. You are so kind, that you fell in love with someone who would kill you in a split second. You have an amazing family, and great friends," he paused and looked into my eyes. "That's why I chose you."

"Exantice, I'm-" he pulled me close and kissed me. Flarin's eyes flew open, and Exantice faded away.

Chapter 10

Chapter 10- Time with Family

Flarin hugged me close.

"What happened?" he asked "I was in here with you, and then everything went black." I knew Exantice had cleared his memory, so I explained.

"We were sitting on the balcony and you fainted, it must have been too cold." I teased him. He laughed at himself, and I told him he should go to the Fire Healer, and he agreed. I sat on the balcony and called for Exantice, he didn't come. With a heavy weight on my heart, I decided maybe it was for the best. I called Electro's proton, but she didn't pick up. I couldn't call Aires because he was helping with rebuilding MM. Fawn! It completely slipped my mind, I was supposed to babysit her today. I ran down to Fawn's nursery, and knocked on the door. The nurse opened it, and she glared at me.

"You're late." she said angrily.

"Yes I know, and I am so, so sorry. I promise I will never be late again." I said hoping she would still let me see Fawn. The nurse opened the door wider, and little Fawn waddled out. She reached her hands up, and picked her up.

"She has to go to Echo for training, then you two can do whatever." she said. We took the AT to Element Gardens. On the way Fawn asked me

"How old are you, Reya?"

"I'm fourteen. How old are you?" I asked her. She stood taller and puffed out her chest.

"I'm five!" she said, with much confidence.

"Five! That's so old!" I told her. We arrived and Echo came to greet us.

"Hello Fawn, oh, hello Ms. Aquana Elementias Royanity." he said my full name and bowed, it was custom.

"Please," I said. "Just call me Reya, and there is no need to bow. I'm not a princess."

"Ok Reya, I will respect your commands." he said, as we followed him inside.

Fawn laughed, and I joined her.

Chapter 11

Chapter 11- Returning Home

I hadn't seen Exantice in weeks. I just spent my time learning more elements. I had mastered air, plant, electric, and earth. I couldn't get the hang of fire, for it was my opposite element. I again went out on the balcony, for the third time today. I looked upon the city of Moonopolis, and I told myself I was brave. I called his name, and it seemed to fall away in the air. A tear ran down my cheek, as I knew he had left for good. I turned looking into my room. I had everything: mother and father, Electro, Aires, Fawn, Flarin, and these amazing powers to help people. What more could I want? Still, I cried. My want was too powerful for me to handle. I sat down on my bed in tears.

"Why did you leave me?" I screamed. "I need you." I sat there crying a tidal wave. Each tear absorbed back into my body when it left my eyes, because I needed it for my powers.

"Hey." I heard his smooth voice beside me. I looked up into his eyes.

"Exantice!" I yelled and hugged him. "I missed you so much." I told him. "I'm so sorry for everything I said. I never meant to hurt you."

"Shhh." Exantice said. "I know." He pulled me in and kissed me. I knew I missed this, and I never wanted him to go away.

"Please don't leave ever again." I told him. He looked at me and smiled

"I won't." he said .

Chapter 12

Chapter 12- Time to Decide

I enjoyed having Exantice back. When I was around him, I felt flawless. He made me feel like I had no limits.

When I was around Flarin, I felt like I was home safe. When he kissed me it felt like warmth engulfing me.

How was I supposed to choose? I loved both, and didn't want to hurt either one. I finally came to a decision. I would have a whole day with each one. The other far away, so they couldn't influence me. At the end of the two days I would bring them together and make my decision.

The first day, I decided to spend with Flarin, because he was my first love. We went to the place we first met, MM. Then we walked all the way to the outskirts of Moonopolis, on the hill where we first kissed. In all honesty, it was amazing. The best time I had ever had with him. That whole day I didn't see, or hear Exantice.

The day with Exantice went great. We launched into a tour shuttle, and started at the stars, and each other's eyes, for hours. Once we spent our hour in space we came back to the palace. A picnic by the river, which was fake water imported from Earth. Finished our day. I was equally amazing.

On the third day I took them both to the tallest tower in the palace. I looked into Flarin's eyes, then Exantice's. I began,

"I love you both equally. Flarin, my first, and Exantice, my unexpected. I have decided to choose." I looked back at them, their faces filled with anticipation.

"I choose-?"